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1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

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MAIN COMMITTEE I

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 10th MEETING

Held at United Nations Headquarters, New York,
on Thursday, 4 May 1995, at 10 a.m.

Chairman: Mr. AYEWAH (Nigeria)

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The meeting was called to order at 10.40 a.m.

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE CONFERENCE

1. Mr. DHANAPALA (Sri Lanka), President of the Conference, said that he had been assured by the Chairman of Main Committees I and II that those Committees would be able to submit their reports by the established deadline. He was aware of the inherent complexity of the issues faced by Main Committee I and recognized the efforts that were being made to reach agreement, but felt that it was his duty as President of the Conference to appeal to delegations to enter the negotiations and discussions in a spirit of cooperation and compromise so as to be able to conclude the work on time. The success of the Committee's efforts was crucial to the outcome of the Conference and the future of the Treaty.

REVIEW OF THE OPERATION OF THE TREATY AS PROVIDED FOR IN ITS ARTICLE VIII, PARAGRAPH 3:

(a) IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE TREATY RELATING TO NON-PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS, DISARMAMENT AND INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY

(ii) ARTICLES I AND II AND PREAMBULAR PARAGRAPHS 1 TO 3 (NPT/CONF.1995/MC.1/CRP.8/Rev.6, CRP.25 and WP.5)

Document NPT/CONF.1995/MC.1/CRP.8/Rev.6

2. The CHAIRMAN said there was no problem with the additional text in paragraph 1, listing the countries which had acceded to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons since the previous Review Conference. Paragraphs 2-6 contained no new language.

3. Mr. MORADI (Islamic Republic of Iran) said that his delegation had not agreed to paragraph 5, and maintained its position that language similar to that used in paragraph 6 should be added in paragraph 5. His delegation had agreed to consider paragraph 5 in the context of paragraph 9, but since that had not been done at the previous meeting, it wanted the additional words inserted in paragraph 5. Many States and non-governmental organizations had expressed concerns about the violation of article 1 of the Treaty by certain nuclear-weapon States, and those concerns should be reflected in the final document.

4. Mr. HAMDAN (Lebanon) said that his delegation had also expressed reservations about paragraph 5 and had said that paragraph 5 should be considered in conjunction with paragraph 9.

5. Mr. BESANCENOT (France) said that document NPT/CONF.1995/MC.I/CRP.8/Rev.6 reflected the state of the discussion where it had been left off. There had been agreement on paragraphs 5 and 6, and various proposals had been made in regard to paragraph 9, on which agreement had not been reached.

6. Mr. HAMDAN (Lebanon) said that the representative of France was not taking into account Lebanon's reservation to paragraph 5; other delegations had also

had doubts about paragraph 5, and he reserved the right to return to that paragraph after the consideration of paragraph 9 was completed.

7. Mr. COTAN (Indonesia) said his delegation had proposed that in paragraph 9 ter, the words "of certain aspects of" should be changed to "of the implementation of" so as to reflect the actual situation.

8. Mr. PERUGINI (Italy) felt that the Conference's task was to review the operation of the Treaty, not to interpret it; article VIII, paragraph 3, was quite clear in that respect. For that reason, the first three alternatives for paragraph 9 were not acceptable. Moreover, the paragraphs should have appeared in the order in which the proposals had been made; paragraph 9 quater should be paragraph 9 bis, and vice versa.

9. The CHAIRMAN said that the order of the paragraphs did not reflect any gradation in their importance; they appeared as submitted.

10. Mr. AKINCI (Turkey) said that none of the alternatives to paragraph 9 was acceptable. His delegation supported the compromise proposal made on the previous day by the Chairman to delete the original paragraph 9 and add a phrase at the end of paragraph 7. His delegation proposed that until the alternatives to paragraph 9 were deleted, the last phrase of paragraph 7 (in bold print) should be put in brackets.

11. Mr. HAMDAN (Lebanon) said that paragraph 9 ter had a certain degree of neutrality. States had the right to make various interpretations of the Treaty and no charge was being levelled against anyone. Some States had expressed concerns, and it was right that those concerns should be reflected in the final document. The other variants for paragraph 9 expressed the viewpoints of certain countries or groups of countries and such viewpoints could not be imposed on other States. In a spirit of consensus, paragraph 9 ter should be viewed as a way out which would help accelerate the pace of the Committee's work towards a speedy conclusion.

(b) SECURITY ASSURANCES

12. The CHAIRMAN drew attention to the report of the Working Group on Security Assurances and Article VII (NPT/CONF.1995/MC.1/CRP.26) which had been informally adopted on the previous day. The document had been finalized, and he took it that the Committee wished to accept it.

13. It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 11.15 a.m.